

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 DRC-01 /058 W
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R 070411Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8150

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17587

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS,TH

SUBJ: MUSLIM REVENG KILLINGS

REF: FBIS DO40555Z NOV 74

1. THE SONGKHLA CONSUL FILED THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON THE
KILLINGS MENTIONED IN REFTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

A. KILLING OF 7 MUSLIMS AND WOUNDING OF FOUR OTHERS, INCLUDING
WOMEN AND CHILDREN, NEAR NARATHIWAT/YALA BORDER NOVEMBER 2
IS LARGEST REVENG ATTACK IN SOUTH IN RECENT HISTORY. FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN QUITE A WHILE, MUSLIM BANDITS SHOT AND KILLED
FELLOW MUSLIMS.

B. DAYLIGHT ATTACK OCCURRED WHILE VILLAGE HEADMAN, WASENG
BURUKAWAREE, WAS RIDING WITH FELLOW VILLAGERS IN TRUCK TAKING
THEM TO SATURDAY MARKET. ATTACKERS OPENED FIRE WITH AUTOMATIC
WEAPONS, FORCING TRUCK OFF ROAD AND SHOT AT EVERY PASSENGER
IN TRUCK.

C. COMMENT: WASENG WAS CLOSE FRIEND OF RTG DISTRIC OFFICER
IN NEARBY PUSO AND HAD OFTEN COOPERATED WITH RTG. VILLAGE
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HAD REFUSED TOSUCCUMB TO EXTORTION THREATS FROM BANDITS.

THIS WAS THIRD ATTEMPT ON HEADMAN'S LIFE AND SEEMS TO STEM DIRECTLY FROM BANDITS AND IS NOT CONNECTED WITH SEPARATIST MOVEMENT. HOWEVER, SINCE RTG REPORTEDLY USING HUNTER-KILLER TEAMS TO TRACK DOWN BANDIT LEADERS IN THIS AREA, KILLINGS COULD ALSO BE RETALIATION TO RTG OPERATIONS.

D. I MET WITH MAJ. GEN. SAN CHITPATIMA, RTG COMMANDER OF JOINT OPERATIONS FOR THIS AREA, THE DAY AFTER THE MASSACRE, AND HE ONLY MENTIONED IT IN PASSING. IN GENERAL TERMS HE FELT THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE MUSLIM PROVINCES HAD IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY SINCE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR, DUE TO HIS OPERATIONS; HOWEVER, HE REPEATED HIS FEARS (EXPRESSED EARLIER TO U.S. VIA ANOTHER SOURCE) THAT WHEN HE WITHDREW HIS MILITARY AND POLICE SPECIAL FORCES FROM THE AREA, A NUMBER OF CIVILIANS WHO HAD HELPED HIM WOULD BE EASY TARGETS FOR RETALIATION. OBVIOUSLY, THE NARATHIWAT ATTACK CAME EVEN SOONER THAN HE EXPECTED.
CASTRODALE. END TEXT.
KINTER

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